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# BULLETIN

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### New Titles for Children and Young People

Agle, Nan Hayden. Three boys and the remarkable cow; by Nan Hayden Agle and Ellen Wilson; illus. by Marian Honigman. Scribner's, 1952. 127p. \$2.

More adventures of the triplets: Abercrombie, Benjamin, and Christopher. This time the three are trying to earn enough money to buy an animal to exhibit at the county fair. They are successful beyond their wildest dreams when the "calf" they are promised as a payment for helping Mr. Finney in his store and barn turns out to be triplets. The story has the same elements of appeal that made Three boys and a lighthouse popular and has even more suspense and humor than the first book. (Gr.3-5)

Ambler, C. Gifford. Ten little foxhounds. Childrens Press, 1951. 22p. \$2.

In this parody on the "Ten little Indians", ten little foxhounds start out on a fox hunt and one by one drop by the wayside until only the fox is left, laughing at them all. Mildly amusing story and illustrations but much too slight for the high price. Not recommended. (K-Gr.1)

Aronin, Ben. The birth of the Jewish people; from Moses to the conquest of Canaan, Book II; illus. by Ethel Samuels. Goodman Bros., 1951. 150p.

Re-tellings of the Old Testament stories from the time of Moses' birth until the Israelites settled in Palestine. The style of writing is mediocre. The paper is of a cheap quality and the format of the book is dull and uninteresting. Not recommended. (Gr.4-6)

Ashé, Marjorie Dugdale. The princess and the enchanted wood and other fairy tales; illus.

by Vivienne Dugdale Neden. Exposition Press, 1951. 80p. \$2.

Fairy tales written for modern children in a manner that is supposed to have all of the appeal and none of the faults of traditional fairy tales. The stories are dull, many of them are completely pointless, and in others the moral is so obvious it destroys any appeal the story might otherwise have had. Not recommended. (Gr.4-6)

Baker, Margaret Joyce. The family that grew and grew; illus. by Nora S. Unwin. Whittlesey House, 1952. 121p. \$2.25. (D42;D116).

Pleasant story of an elderly woman whose impetuous purchase of a Pekinese pup leads to her moving from London to the small town of Pennycress where she purchases a toy shop and adopts a small boy. The story moves smoothly without haste or much excitement but it is warm and friendly and the characters are real and likable. (Gr.3-5).

Baldwin, James, ed. Robinson Crusoe; retold by James Baldwin; illus. by Frederick T. Chapman. Aladdin, 1951. 185p. \$2.

New edition of a book first published in 1905. Not only is the reader given a watered-down, mutilated version of the original but Defoe is given no credit in either the book or on the book jacket for having written the original story. Not recommended. (Gr.3-5)

Ball, Zachary. Swamp chief. Holiday House, 1952. 212p. \$2.50. (D59;D97).

Joe Panther, young Seminole Indian boy, sets out to help bring his people to a realization of the need for more cooperation between the white men and the Indians and of the acceptance by the Indians of the best of modern ways of living. His efforts are made difficult by the extreme bitterness one of the tribe's councilmen feels toward white men and by some white policemen who lack any understanding of Indian customs or consideration for the feelings of the Indians. However, with the aid of Mr. Wilkins, a lawyer friend, and Captain Harper on whose boat Joe works, a beginning is made and the story ends on a hopeful note for the future. In addition to presenting an interesting picture of modern Indian life in the Everglades there are some exciting accounts of deep sea fishing and a chase through the Everglades. (Gr.7-9)

Banta, Richard Elwell. Life in America: The South; picture maps by Janet Broninger. Fidler, 1951. 160p. \$2.36.

Part I concerns the South in general. Part

II concerns the individual states: Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas. The treatment in both sections is superficial and many of the serious social and economic problems of the South are either mentioned casually or completely ignored. Illustrated with photographs and reproductions of paintings of early historic events. The paintings are uninteresting but the photographs could be used for browsing or as supplementary material in social studies classes. (Gr.5-7)

Bare, Arnold Edwin. Maui's summer. Houghton, 1952. 44p. \$2.50. (D59).

Interesting picture of modern life on the island of Molokai, T. H.. Maui is a small boy living on the island and longing for the day when he can own his own boat and visit the island of Maui for which he is named. A friendship with some children from the U. S. gives him a chance to sail with them and their parents through the islands and at the end of the voyage he gets his boat. Beautiful illustrations that catch the spirit of the islands and the people. (Gr.2-4)

Belting, Natalia. The moon is a crystal ball; unfamiliar legends of the stars; illus. by Anne Marie Jauss. Bobbs-Merrill, 1952. 150p. \$2.50.

Legends and folk tales about the moon, sun, stars, and planets taken from sources other than the usual Greek and Roman. Includes tales from India, Rumania, Germany, Estonia, American Indians, Netherlands, Siberia, Polynesia, Australia, China, Korea, and West Africa. The stories are well told and could be used as story hour materials. The drawings of the star groups are interesting although not always clear enough for use as star identification. Complete star maps on the end-papers only. (Gr.4-6)

Berg, Jean Horton. The big jump-up farm animal book; pictures by William Bartlett. Grosset, 1952. 21p. (Activity books). \$1.

Each page tells how an animal calls her young home at night. Some of the pages have folded sections at the top that pop up when the pages are opened. The pictures on the pop-ups are so completely out of proportion with the pictures on the balance of the page that the result is confusing and unattractive. Text is condescending in tone. Not recommended. (Pre-school)

Bible. The great stories of the Bible for children; foreword by George H. Sandison. World, 1951. 320p. \$2.

Re-issue of a book first published in 1925. These are uninspired versions of some of the major stories of the Old and New Testaments. The paper is of poor quality and the heavy inking of the type often shows through, with the result that the text is difficult to read. The old-fashioned illustrations are lacking in artistic quality and appeal. Not recommended. (Gr.4-6)

Farm friends and Hans Christian Andersen's Ugly duckling; illus. by Pauline Adams and Phoebe Erickson. Childrens Press, 1951. 31p. (A

big silver star book.) \$2.40.

"Farm friends", the first story in the book, tells in simple text, one line to a page, about the animals going to the fair. "The ugly duckling" is a shortened and uninspired version of Andersen's story. The uneven illustrations and the poor quality of the re-telling of "The ugly duckling" make the book unacceptable. Not recommended. (Pre-school)

Bowles, Kerwin. Mike and the giant; the story of Michelangelo; illus. by Mitchell Foster. Stravon, 1951. 32p. (Stravon great artists series). \$1.

Another title in the series designed to introduce great art and artists to modern youngsters. The author's attempt to modernize his material has resulted in a style that is crude and inappropriate for the subject. The arrangement of the text on the page is sometimes confusing and the splashes of color mixed in with the text make difficult reading. The writing is too difficult for readers below the sixth grade although the style and the format of the book are designed for younger readers. Crude illustrations and poor reproductions of the works of Michelangelo. Not recommended. (Gr.6-8)

Carlson, Natalie Savage, ed. The talking cat and other stories of French Canada; pictures by Roger Duvoisin. Harper, 1952. 87p. \$2.

Re-tellings of folk tales handed down to the author from her great-great uncle, Michel Meloche, a French-Canadian coureur de bois. The stories are told with a verve and humor that will make them fun to read aloud or for story hours. The amusing illustrations add to the appeal of the book. (Gr.3-5)

Cavanna, Betty, ed. Pick of the litter; Betty Cavanna's favorite dog stories. Westminster, 1952. 222p. \$2.50.

Uneven collection of dog stories, most of them by well known writers for adults. Some of the selections are quite good but many are overly sentimental and one story of a Negro boy is in very poor taste. The stories are all available elsewhere. Not recommended. (Gr.8-10)

Coffin, Robert Peter Tristram. Life in America: New England; picture maps by Janet Croninger. Fidler, 1951. 128p. \$2.36.

Part I concerns New England in general. Part II concerns the individual states: Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine. As in the books on the South and the Midwest the treatment is too superficial to have much value for classroom use, except for browsing and for the photographs. The author devotes a major portion of his effort to attempts to show that the "Yankees" are better in every respect than the people living in other parts of the United States. The photographs are interesting and are the most useful part of the book. (Gr.5-7)

Coggins, Herbert. Busby and co.; pictures by Roger Duvoisin. Whittlesey House, 1952. 96p. \$2.25.

A pleasant, if somewhat incredible, story of a pet beaver. Jerry rescues Busby, the beaver, from a trap, cares for him at camp until his leg is well, and then takes him to

live in the city. There Busby causes trouble by freeing a neighbor's pet rabbits and by gnawing the wood from under another neighbor's front steps. He redeems himself, however, when he helps Jerry start a business of selling firewood and when he builds a dam for a swimming pool on Jerry's Uncle Lipp's country place. Although Busby seems almost too intelligent at times he is a likable character and the humorous situations he creates give added appeal. (Gr.3-5)

Commager, Henry Steele. Chestnut squirrel; with pictures by Lisl Weil. Houghton, 1952. \$2.

Chestnut squirrel has the same naughtiness, greediness, and thoughtlessness a small boy might have and his escapades always end with him as the hero. The stories are too contrived to have much reality and follow so closely the patterns of other personified animal stories that they lack the appeal of originality. Not recommended. (K-Gr.2)

Compton, Margaret. American Indian fairy tales. Dodd, 1951. 201p. \$2.50.

Re-issue of a book first published in 1895. The material is interesting but the crowded pages and fine print will keep the book from being widely read. The primary usefulness will be as a source book for story hour material. (Gr.4-6)

Crowder, Dorothy E. The flying nation; the story of the bees; illus. by Helen Haywood. Roy, 1952. 156p. \$2.50.

A story of bees told through the activities of a single hive during one year. The bees are so highly personified that the book loses any value it might have had as nature study material. Not recommended. (Gr.4-6)

Decker, Duane Walter. The big stretch. Morrow, 1952. 191p. \$2.50.

Stretch Stookey had been bat boy for the Blue Sox before he was signed up by the minors and when his chance came to play with the major league team its members could not believe that he had really developed into a big league player. He not only had to convince the team that he could handle the first base position but he had to overcome the fans' protests when he replaced their favorite, Beef Trust Blake. The story moves somewhat slowly through the first chapter but then it gains momentum and is swift-paced and exciting throughout the remainder of the book. (Gr.7-9)

Disney, Walt. Alice in Wonderland meets the white rabbit; retold by Jane Werner; pictures by the Walt Disney Studio adapted by Al Dempster from the motion picture based on the story by Lewis Carroll. Simon and Schuster, 1951. 26p. (A little golden book). \$.85. (Goldenraft Cloth Binding).

Although some of the incidents bear a faint resemblance to the original the dull writing and ugly illustrations have lost all of the appeal of Carroll's story. Not recommended. (Pre-school)

Dixon, Ruth. Little friends: kittens, puppies, bunnies; photographs by Rie Gaddis. Rand

McNally, 1952. 32p. (A book-elf book). \$.25  
Kittens, puppies, and rabbits dressed like people and photographed in awkward, uncomfortable looking poses. The slight, coyly written story tells of a young kitten who sets out to earn enough money to buy a jumping rope. Not recommended. (K-Gr.1)

Eaton, Jeanette. Betsy's Napoleon. Morrow, 1952. 274p. \$3. (D42;D72)

New printing of a book first published in 1936. This is an exceptionally well-written and unusual biography of Napoleon told from the point of view of Betsy Balcombe, thirteen-year-old girl who lived on the island of St. Helena and who became one of Napoleon's best friends during his imprisonment on the island. Although the book is written in a fictionalized style and a few minor liberties have been taken with historical sequence, the total result is an accurate and interesting picture of Napoleon, the times in which he lived, and the people whose lives were most affected by his stay at St. Helena. (Gr.7-9)

Evernden, Margery. The golden trail; illus. by Lynd Ward. Random House, 1952. 179p. \$2.50.

Spirited story of the first Spanish settlement in San Francisco. Young Ramon Morales' godparents reluctantly agreed to make the trip with Captain Anza's group of settlers but by the time they reached Monterey had decided they were too old for such ventures and turned back. Ramon could not face returning to a life of poverty after the excitement and dangers of the trip to Monterey and his courage and perseverance won him the right to go ahead as planned. Excellent period fiction and a good adventure story. (Gr.6-8)

Foster, Mitchell. The birdman; the story of Leonardo da Vinci; told and illus. by Mitchell Foster. Stravon, 1951. 31p. (Stravon great artist series). \$1.

Brief biography of Leonardo da Vinci that fails to give a real understanding of either the man or his works. Crude illustrations interspersed with poorly done black and white reproductions of some of da Vinci's works. On many pages the color runs into the text in a manner that is confusing and hard on the eyes. Not recommended. (Gr.6-8)

Garst, Doris Shannon. Jim Bridger, greatest of the mountain men; illus. by William Moyers. Houghton, 1952. 242p. \$2.75.

Rousing biography of Jim Bridger, early scout and explorer of the Rocky Mountains. Told with all the drama and excitement of an adventure story, it is nevertheless accurate in the details of Bridger's life and of the events of the period. William Moyers' illustrations catch the vigor and spirit of the writing. Maps on end-papers. (Gr.7-9)

Gossett, Margaret. Strange but true; pictures by Alois Fabry. Grosset, 1952. 24p. (Big treasure books). \$1.

A conglomeration of information about strange habits, customs, and ways of living of plants, animals, and people throughout the world and throughout time. The treatment is superficial and so much is crowded on to a page

that the result is confusion rather than information. The pages are cluttered with illustrations that are more misleading than clarifying. Not recommended. (Gr.3-5)

Goudey, Alvie E. Smokey, the well-loved kitten; illus. by Meg Wohlberg. Lothrop, 1952. 116p. \$2.50.

Ellen was delighted when her Aunt Tessie offered her a kitten but Ellen's father was not so sure there was a place for a cat in their apartment. It was not until he had to spend several days alone with Smokey that he discovered what good company cats can be and after that there was no doubt about Smokey's place in the family. An easy-to-read story with attractive illustrations. (Gr.3-5)

Hall, Marjory. Saralee's silver spoon; illus. by Catherine Barnes. Sloane, 1952. 306p. \$2.75. (D25;D107;D19)

Saralee returned to Oldriver after a year's study in art school discouraged because she had not shown enough ability to earn a scholarship for her second year. Faced with the necessity of earning her own living and helping her aunt and grandmother, with whom she had lived most of her life, Saralee went to work for Brewster, a local concern that manufactured flat silverware. She started as a messenger and worked her way up through Packaging and Display to a place in Design where she could make good use of her artistic ability even though she was no artist. Saralee's growing awareness of the people around her and her acceptance of the limitations of her abilities make a better than average career story. (Gr.8-10)

Hoke, John. The first book of snakes; pictures by Paul Wenok. Watts, 1952. 68p. \$1.75.

Interesting discussion of snakes of all kinds, their history, how they live, their value in nature, how to identify poisonous varieties, and snakes as pets. Dispels some of the myths and superstitions about snakes and tends to create a real understanding of them and their place in the scheme of nature. Somewhat more detailed than Zim's Snakes (Morrow, 1949) and equally useful and interesting. Excellent illustrations. (Gr.4-6)

Hunt, Mabel Leigh. Ladycake farm; illus. by Clotilde Embree Funk. Lippincott, 1952. 128 p. \$2.25. (D59;D37)

Warm, friendly story of a Negro family who move, house and all, to a new farm on the outskirts of the town where they have been living. The farm represents a dream of years and is all they had expected it to be until the prejudice and hatred of one of their neighbors almost ruins their pleasure in it. The solution to the neighborhood problem is too pat and is accomplished too quickly to be realistic and some readers may disagree with the father's instructions to the children to never answer back but just keep grinning. However, these are minor weaknesses when compared with the good writing (especially in the handling of the dialect), the very real and likable characters, the vivid descriptions of the farm and its surroundings, and the happy family relations. (Gr.4-6)

Jensen, Eloise J. Son of Talva; the story of a coyote on the CM Ranch; illus. by Brownie

Wissley Schaudel. Exposition Press, 1951. 38p. \$2.

Inspid story of a coyote cub that is captured near a ranch and reared by a young girl. The condescending tone and uninteresting format will counteract any interest the subject might have. Not recommended. (Gr.4-6)

Jones, Ruth Fosdick. Boy of the pyramids; a mystery of ancient Egypt; illus. by Dorothy Bayley Morse. Random House, 1952. 140p. \$2.50.

An interesting and mildly exciting story of two children, a ten-year-old Egyptian boy and his girl slave and companion, who are living in Egypt at the time of the building of the Great Pyramid of Khufu. The two are threatened by a bull, get lost during the annual flood of the Nile, and help solve a mystery. A good picture of life in ancient Egypt. (Gr.4-6)

Kamerman, Sylvia E., ed. Little plays for little players; fifty non-royalty plays for children. Plays, 1952. 335p. \$2.75.

Simple plays for primary and middle elementary grades, reprinted from Plays Magazine. The plays are uneven in quality and two of the historical plays have inaccuracies. Not an outstanding collection although some of the plays would be useful for special occasions. Contents include holiday plays; general plays; and legends, fables, fairy tales and fantasies. (Gr.2-4)

Keiser, Armilda B. Here's how and when; illus. by Janet Smalley. Friendship Press, 1952. 174p. \$1.50 paper; \$2.75 cloth.

Program and activity suggestions for a Sunday School unit on world friendship, designed to show the work of missionaries around the world. The activities are interesting and the directions are clearly presented. The extremely coy, cute tone of the explanatory sections becomes quite irritating but these sections can be omitted without affecting the value of the book. This is a book for adults to use in working with children rather than for children to use alone.

Kipling, Rudyard. The Rudyard Kipling story-book. Grosset, 1951. 244p. (A thrushwood book). \$1.

A collection of short stories and excerpts from some of Kipling's longer works. The stories are all about children but few of them are suitable for children. All but three of the stories are adult in tone and repeat stereotypes and attitudes of white superiority that are not acceptable. Not recommended. (Gr.5-7)

Kissen, Fan. The crowded house and other tales. Houghton, 1952. 176p. \$2.75.

Familiar folk and fairy tales adapted for radio. The stories may be used for real radio programs or in classroom or assembly programs. Included are directions for setting up a make-believe radio studio and for producing the sound effects needed in each play. Illustrations for the sound effects are not always clear and will need some adult help and supervision for best results. (Gr.3-5)

Klein, Leonore. The happy surprise; illus. by Ruth Wood. Wonder Books, 1952. 26p. \$.25.

A small girl is promised a surprise one morning and then is kept waiting an entire day before it comes. Her parents do not tell her when the surprise is to arrive and she is reduced to a state of tears and despair before it finally comes. Slight story with an unhealthy emotional situation. Not recommended. (Pre-school)

Lancaster, Bruce. Guns in the forest. Little, 1952. 259p. \$3.

Revised and condensed version of the author's Guns of Burgoyne which is now out of print. The story describes Burgoyne's campaign as seen through the experiences of a Hessian soldier. The writing is uneven and few of the characters come alive. However, as an unusual approach to the Revolutionary War the book will have value and appeal. (Gr.8-10)

Lawrence, Isabelle. The night watch; adventure with Rembrandt; illus. by Manning de V. Lee. Rand McNally, 1952. 272p. \$2.75.

Fast-paced story of suspense and intrigue in seventeenth century Amsterdam. Pieter de Hoogh, apprentice to Rembrandt, finds his life becoming alarmingly complicated and even endangered when he befriends Henje, a young girl who turns out to be the granddaughter of one of Holland's great heroes, van Vliet. The action is built around the painting of the "Night Watch" picture and the subsequent trouble that resulted when the members of the Guard objected to the manner in which they were portrayed in the picture. The characters are well-drawn and interesting and the story moves swiftly, with well-sustained interest. Excellent both as period fiction and a mystery story. (Gr.7-9)

Lenski, Lois. Peanuts for Billy Ben; written and illus. by Lois Lenski. Lippincott, 1952. 128p. (Roundabout America series). \$2.

Another in Miss Lenski's new series of easy reading stories about the various regions of America. Billy Ben is a six-year-old boy living with his family on a half-share farm in the peanut country of Virginia. Peanuts are not only the staple crop of the farm but are also Billy Ben's favorite food even though they do mean long and hard work. The story takes Billy Ben and the peanut crop through a year's cycle in which there are good times with the family and neighbors, much hard work for everyone, and one unhappy time when Billy Ben falls from a loaded truck and is badly injured. The story gives a good picture of life in this section of the country and especially of the ways in which family and neighbors share in work and fun. (Gr.3-5)

Lindman, Maj Jan. Sailboat time. Whitman, 1951. 24p. \$1.50.

Two small Swedish children whose mother has to be away from home overnight are taken on a sailing trip by their father. They sail a short way down shore to an island, camp there for the night, and return the next day with a fish and some berries for their mother. Slight story but the subject is interesting and the style easy enough for third grade readers to handle alone. Same format and type as earlier Lindman books. (Gr.2-4)

Long, Laura. George Dewey, Vermont boy; illus. by Harry H. Lees. Bobbs-Merrill, 1952. 184p. (Childhood of famous Americans series) \$1.75.

Biography of Admiral Dewey with the emphasis on his boyhood days in Vermont. The book has more about Dewey's adult life than is usual for the series. Acceptable although not outstanding writing. (Gr.3-5)

Macdonald, George. The princess and Curdie; illus. by Charles Folkard. Dutton, 1951. 238p. (Children's illustrated classics). \$1.75.

Acceptable edition of an old time favorite that still has appeal for modern readers. The binding is not too substantial. The paper and print are good. Illustrations are of the traditional fairy tale type. (Gr.4-6)

McGavran, Grace Winifred. Mpengo of the Congo; illus. by Kurt Wiese. Friendship Press, 1952. 127p. \$1.25 paper; \$2 cloth.

Mpengo is a small boy living in a mission village on the Congo River. His parents decide to return to his mother's native village where her father is the witch doctor and teach the people the ways of Christianity. The parents' teaching is successful and the entire village is converted. The story is too contrived and too obviously written for a purpose to have much appeal and does not succeed in creating any real understanding or liking for the people. Not recommended. (Gr.4-6)

Martin, Marcia. Sonny the bunny; pictures by Art Seiden. Wonder Books, 1952. 26p. \$.25.

Dull story of a young rabbit who goes wandering in the big woods, loses his way, and is saved by the magic in his left hind foot. Ridiculous illustrations. Not recommended. (K-Gr.1)

May, Stella Burke. Let's read about Brazil. Fidler, 1951. 128p. \$2.38. (D62)

New edition of a book first published in 1948. Most of the text has been re-written and re-arranged although little that is actually new has been added. The first edition was illustrated with a combination of drawings and photographs. The new edition has photographs only and they are better both in selection and printing than the earlier ones. Indexed. (Gr.4-6)

Moore, Lillian. Old Rosie, the horse nobody understood; by Lillian Moore and Leone Adelson; illus. by Leonard Shortall. Random House, 1952. 36p. \$2.

Rosie, a retired milk wagon horse, was lonesome but whenever she tried to find her friends she got into trouble and made the farmer and his wife angry. Then one night she tried to make friends with a robber, frightened him away, and became the family heroine. Not an original plot but the story has humor and is easy enough for third grade readers to handle alone. Illustrations are funnier than the text. (Gr.2-4)

Mygatt, Emmie D. Rim-rocked; a story of the new west; decorations by Peter B. Andrews. Longmans, 1952. 215p. \$2.50.

When Dave and Stuart Hamilton agreed to

work a Wyoming ranch on shares they had not counted on the fact that the ranch was in desperate financial condition nor that they would have to contend with unscrupulous characters who were interested in obtaining the uranium deposits on the land. Their problems began when their parents forced them to take a classmate, Ned, along on the trip because he knew how to repair car motors. What the Hamiltons did not know was that Ned was a speed demon and a dangerous driver. The story of the trip to Wyoming and of life on the ranch is packed with one climax after another. There is little connection between some of the episodes and all of them are highly improbable. The characters are completely lacking in reality in both their actions and conversations. Not recommended. (Gr.7-9)

Paradis, Marjorie B. Timmy and the tiger; illus. by Marc Simont. Harper, 1952. 246p. \$2.50. (D40b)

Timmy thought that when the family moved from the city apartment to a small town he would leave all his fears behind. However he soon found that there was as much to fear in the country as in the city. Through the help of his parents and an understanding minister who tutored him during the balance of the school year, Timmy learned that all people have some fears and the disgrace is not in being afraid but in giving in to your fear. While Timmy was learning to understand and control his fears he was also making friends with the other children of the neighborhood and even helped recapture an escaped tiger that had been brought to this country by a wild game hunter living near Timmy. A pleasantly written story that should be useful for helping children understand and overcome their fears. (Gr.4-6)

Parks, Aileen Wells. Bedford Forrest, boy on horseback; illus. by Paul Laune. Bobbs-Merrill, 1952. 192p. (Childhood of famous Americans series). \$1.75.

Life of Bedford Forrest, Confederate General, from the time he was ten until he was sixteen. The last chapter jumps abruptly to modern times and a young namesake of Forrest who is listening to an old soldier tell stories of the General. The result is confusing and will give the reader little understanding of just what is Forrest's claim to fame. Not recommended. (Gr.3-5)

Peters, Lisa. The wonder book of trains; pictures by Tom Sinnickson. Wonder Books, 1952. 25p. \$.25.

Each car of a freight train is described as it is added to the train. The text is condescending in tone but the illustrations are clear and will have interest for young train fans. (Pre-school)

Powell, Miriam. Jareb; illus. by Marc Simont. Crowell, 1952. 24lp. \$2.50. (D39;D97)

Jareb is a young boy living in the poverty stricken Piney Woods section of South Georgia. The boy and his father share a deep love for the piney woods and a resentment against the turpentiners who have caused the destruction of much of the country. They do not share an equal affection for Jareb's dog, Sawbuck, who

is lazy, gun-shy, and generally no-account, but who is Jareb's one friend and companion. Jareb's attempt to save his dog in the face of total opposition and the family's attempt to save the forests make an absorbing story with vivid characterizations and descriptions of the country. (Gr.8-10)

Rafferty, Gerald. Copperhead Hollow. Morrow, 1952. 185p. \$2.

Jim did not want to spend the summer at Camp Lenape and he considered the other campers much too immature and childish to interest him. In spite of himself he became attached to Steve Darcy and through Steve's efforts became interested in the camp and its activities. The two boys discover a valuable mineral deposit on the camp's grounds, thwart the efforts of a neighbor to gain control of the deposit, and save the camp from bankruptcy. Their methods of doing this are not always either ethical or honest and the implication is made that they are justified in their actions because the man they are thwarting is also dishonest. Not recommended. (Gr.6-8)

Rand, Addison. Southpaw fly hawk; decorations by W. B. Ricketts. Longmans, 1952. 183p. \$2.25.

The story of the rise of a young rookie from sandlot to major league with the emphasis on the details of the games rather than on emotional tangles or player conflicts. Eddie Hadley began playing baseball in his home town in the upper Michigan copper country, moved up to the Minneapolis Millers, and finally won a chance to play with the New York Giants. Reliable baseball. (Gr.7-9)

Reynolds, Barbara (Leonard). Pepper; illus. by Barbara Cooney. Scribner's, 1952. 169p. \$2.

Ten-year-old Aleck Bailey rescued Pepper, a baby raccoon, after its mother had been killed, and took it home to raise as a pet. In spite of the warnings of many adults Aleck was not quite prepared for all the trouble Pepper would cause as he grew older but it all seemed worth while when Pepper became a major factor in the creation of a zoo for the town. Also Aleck learned some lessons in courage from Pepper that helped in his own growing up. A well written story with realistic characters, suspense, and humor. A good picture of how the people of a town work together on a community project. Barbara Cooney's illustrations are perfect for the story. (Gr.5-7)

Robinson, Mary B. The story of Susie Pig; written and illus. by Mary B. Robinson. Warne, 1951. 42p. \$1.

Format and text similar but inferior to the Beatrix Potter stories. Susie is much too good to be real and the overdose of her goodness makes dull reading. Not recommended. (Gr.1-3)

Schwartz, Julius. It's fun to know why; experiments with things around us; illus. by Edwin Herron. Whittlesey House, 1952. 125p. \$2.75.

Simple experiments that will help young children understand the nature and use of everyday materials. Contents include: iron, coal, cement, glass, rubber, wool, salt, bread, soap,



and paper. The information is presented in an interesting manner and the experiments are easy to follow. Most of the materials required will be found in home and classroom. (Gr.5-7)

Seignobos, Françoise. Small-Trot; by Françoise pseud.; Scribner's, 1952. 31p. \$2.

Small-Trot is a talented mouse who joins a circus in order to earn enough money to support her family. She is an immediate success but remains unspoiled and likable in spite of her fame. Although the illustrations are more pleasing than the story, which is flat and dull, they are not as good as many of Françoise's earlier works. The cursive type makes this a book for reading to children; not one they can handle alone. Not recommended. (Pre-school)

Sperry, Armstrong. Thunder country; written and illus. by Armstrong Sperry. Macmillan, 1952. 150p. \$2.75.

More adventures of Chad Powell and his father. This time they are in the Thunder Country of Venezuela searching for a quetzal bird, which they find after some exciting adventures with a band of head hunters. Good adventure story that provides action and suspense without resorting to sensationalism. (Gr.6-8)

Steiner, Charlotte. Little John Little; story and illus. by Charlotte Steiner. Wonder Books, 1952. 26p. \$.25.

Variant of the Tom Thumb story. Little John Little does all the things that are expected of a person the size of a man's thumb and has the usual adventures with birds, wind, cows, etc. Inconsequential. (Pre-school)

Stolz, Mary Slaterry. The leftover elf; drawings by Peggy Bacon. Harper, 1952. 58p. \$2.50.

An Irish elf, the last of his kind, sets out to find the Believer, a human being whose faith is all that keeps the elf from disappearing. With the aid of a friendly but not too helpful Plan he travels from his home in the woods to a nearby town where he finds - not one - but three Believers. Thus encouraged he returns to the forest and his friend Peeper, the frog. A pleasant story told in a smooth, rhythmic style that is fun to read aloud. (Gr.2-4)

Wayne, Richard. Wrong-way rookie. Macrae, 1952. 189p. \$2.50.

From the very beginning Willie Watson seemed a candidate for the role of "rookie least likely to succeed". Each year he appeared at a different ball club and each year he was turned down by the manager. Then by a quirk of chance he was allowed to join the major league Lions as a third string catcher and in that position he proved his ability - not as an outstanding ball player but as the spark the team needed to make them play championship ball. Fairly routine baseball with good descriptions of the games and some humor. (Gr.7-9)

Weber, Mary Bond. The children of Hillcrest; stories and poems for children; illus. by

Frances Patterson. Exposition Press, 1951. 92p. \$2.50.

Stories and poems obviously written about and for a particular family of children. The style is dull and condescending and many of the stories are pointless for anyone who does not know the place or the children involved. Not recommended. (Gr.2-4)

Webster, Joseph. The rookie from Junction Flats. Ariel, 1952. 151p. \$2.50.

Another rookie makes good in the major league without previous seasoning in the minors. This time Wilbur Hatfield, lately of Junction Flats, Arkansas, joins the St. Louis Browns when they seem destined to spend another year in the cellar for want of a strong hitter. Wilbur can hit but his fielding ability leaves much to be desired. However, by the end of the season he has helped pull the team up from the cellar and has won the respect of his team-mates and the affection of the fans. Good baseball. (Gr.7-9)

Weisgard, Leonard. The clean pig. Scribner's, 1952. 30p. \$2.

A slovenly family living near the railroad tracks finds its way of life completely changed when a very clean pig comes to the farm to live. The story is labored, the humor is forced, and any appeal that the unusual situation might have had is lost in the excessive length of the text. Not recommended. (K-Gr.2)

Whitney, Phyllis Ayame. Love me, love me not. Houghton, 1952. 280p. \$2.75.

The story of three girls who share a Chicago apartment. Susan Morris is the naive, small-town girl who is forced to work for a living but is primarily interested in finding a husband and a home. Nan Arnold is the serious young teacher with social worker inclinations. Carol Ellington is the beautiful but spoiled daughter of wealthy parents in whose apartment the three girls are living. The two young men in the story are Michael, handsome, shallow, and self-centered and Andy, earnest young newspaper reporter who sacrifices a higher salary for his integrity and wins the girl (Susan) in the end. The plot is manufactured. The characters are mere types used to forward the plot and are entirely lacking in reality. Some of the concepts are good but their value is lost in the formula writing. Not recommended. (Gr.8-10)

Wilkie, Katharine E. Zach Taylor, young rough and ready; illus. by Syd Browne. Bobbs-Merrill, 1952. 194p. (Childhood of famous Americans series). \$1.75.

The boyhood of Zachary Taylor in a frontier town of Kentucky. The accounts of Indian raids and of hunting trips are interesting although the characters are completely lifeless and the conversations wooden. The last chapter sums up the Indian wars in Florida, the Mexican War, and Taylor's presidency in eleven pages. Not recommended. (Gr.3-5)

Wolfe, Louis. Clear the track; true stories of railroading; illus. by Charles Geer. Lippincott, 1952. 181p. \$2.50.

Stories of famous people (and one dog) who have been connected with railroads. Includes

Casey Jones, Buffalo Bill, John Henry, George Westinghouse, Kovalinka (Czech engineer who brought a train of refugees from Communist Czechoslovakia to West Germany), and many others. The writing is uneven but the material is good and will have interest. (Gr.6-8)

Wyatt, Edgar. Geronimo, the last Apache war chief; illus. by Allan Houser. Whittlesey House, 1952. 188p. \$2.50.

Excellent biography of one of the best known of all the Indian chiefs. The author has created a vivid picture of the man and the times in which he lived that will have appeal both for its subject interest and as supplementary reading for history classes. The actions of both white men and Indians that led to misunderstanding and fighting are presented in a fair and objective manner. (Gr.6-8)

#### Instructional Materials, Supplementary Reading and Sources of Materials

The materials listed here are not available from the Center for Children's Books. Orders should be sent to the publishers of the individual items.

All their powers. Health Information Foundation, 420 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, New York. 30p. Free.

Five stories adapted from documentary programs written for the Health Information Foundation and broadcast over N.B.C. The stories describe five community health projects.

Beust, Nora E. "Elementary-school libraries are learning centers" NEA Journal 41: 158-59 Mr'52.

Carlsen, George Robert. "The dimensions of literature" English Journal 41: 179-86 Ap'52.

Gray, William S. "Summary of reading investigations, July 1, 1950 to June 30, 1951" Journal of Educational Research 45: 401-37 F'52.

Kambly, Paul E. "The elementary school science library for 1950-1951" School Science and Mathematics 52: 309-13 Ap'52.

Perry, W. D. "Bibliography on economic and vocational needs of adolescents" The High School Journal 35: 187-90 Mr'52.  
Informational materials for joint use of counselor and students.

Reading for democracy. No. 9 of series Books for Young Americans. National Conference of Christians and Jews, 203 N. Wabash, Chicago 1, 1952. Free.

Reynolds, Arthur W. "Comics, radio and their pretensions" Clearing House 26: 263-66 Ja'52.

Science Research Associates booklets. SRA, Inc., 57 West Grand Avenue, Chicago 10, Illinois. \$.40 each.

"Junior guidance service manual" (A manual for adult use in guidance classes. Contains bibliography.)

"Life with brothers and sisters" by Frances Ullman. (A Junior Life Adjustment Booklet.)  
"Helping children understand sex" by Lester A. Kirkendall. (A Better Living Booklet - for parents and teachers.)

Smith, Nila Banton. "Helpful books to use with retarded readers" Elementary School Journal 52: 390-97 Mr'52.

Storen, Helen F. Readings in intergroup relations. National Conference of Christians and Jews, 381 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, N.Y., 1952. \$.25.

Teter, Vie C. "The paper bound band wagon" Illinois Libraries 34: 12-15 Ja'52.

Wilt, Miriam E. The teaching of listening - and why. Monograph on Language Arts, No. 66. Row, Peterson, 1951. Free.

Witty, Paul. "Television and the high school student" Education 72: 242-51 D'51.  
Report of a survey made in the Oak Park and River Forest Township High School, Illinois.

Wood, Hugh B. and Impevocen, Howard. "A bibliography of curriculum materials in science" Science Education 35: 269-71 D'51.  
Textbooks and courses of study for use in junior and senior high school science classes.

Woolever, John D. "Science fiction for science students" Science Education 35: 284-86 D'51.  
Criteria for selecting science fiction.

Zim, Herbert S. "Informational books - Tonic and tool for the elementary classroom" Elementary English 29: 129-35 Mr'52

Suggested titles for use in Grades 1-3. All of the titles are easy enough for third grade readers. Starred titles can be handled by upper first and second grade readers.

Averill, E. Jenny's moonlight adventure. Harper, 1949.

\_\_\_\_\_. School for oats. Harper, 1947.  
\_\_\_\_\_. When Jenny lost her scarf. Harper, 1951.

\*Bacon, F.E.A. Kitty come down. Oxford, 1944.

\*Barr, J. Texas Pete, little cowboy. Whitman, 1950.

Bemelmanc, L. Hansi. Viking, 1934.

Bernhard, J.B. Lullaby. Roy, 1944.

Beskow, E.M. Pelle's new suit. Harper, 1929.

Billings, A. Gilbert, the gay poodle. Viking, 1949.

Bishop, C.H. Five Chinese brothers. Coward-McGann, 1938.

Brook, E.L. Runaway sardine. Knopf, 1929.

\*Brown, M.W. Red light, green light. Doubleday, 1944.

Brunhoff, J.de. Babar and Father Christmas. Random House, 1940.

Buck, M.W. Country boy. Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1947.

Bulla, C.R. Donkey cart. Crowell, 1946.

Burton, V.L. Katy and the big snow. Houghton, 1943.

- Burton, V.L. Mike Mulligan and his steam shovel. Houghton, 1939.
- \*Caldecott, R. Picture books, 4v. Warne, n.d.
- \*Caudill, R. Schoolhouse in the woods. Winston, 1949.
- Charles, R.H. Roundabout turn. Warne, 1930.
- Clark, G. Let's start cooking. Young Scott, 1951.
- \*Coats, A.M. Story of Horace. Faber, 1937.
- Creekmore, R. Lokoshi learns to hunt seals. Macmillan, 1946.
- Cutler, L. Peg-a-Leg. Knopf, 1946.
- Daugherty, J.H. Andy and the lion. Viking, 1938.
- \*Falls, C.B. Modern ABC book. Day, 1930.
- Gag, W. Story book. Coward-McGann, 1932.
- Gall, A.C. All the year round. Oxford, 1944.
- Garner, E. Little cat lost. Messner, 1943.
- Garrett, H. Angelo, the naughty one. Viking, 1944.
- Geisel, T.S. And to think that I saw it on Mulberry Street. Vanguard, 1937.
- Geisner, B.P. Very young verses. Houghton, 1945.
- Greenaway, K. Marigold garden. Warne, 188-.
- Hader, B.H. Big city. Macmillan, 1947.
- Handforth, T. Mei Li. Doubleday, 1938.
- Henry, M. Little fellow. Winston, 1945.
- Klem, G. Serena and the cookie lady. Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1949.
- Lathrop, D.P. Puppies for keeps. Macmillan, 1943.
- \*Lanski, L. Papa Small. Oxford, 1951.
- \*. Spring is here. Oxford, 1945.
- \*Lindman, M.J. Flicka, Ricka, Dicka and a little dog. Whitman, 1946.
- \*McCloskey, R. Make way for ducklings. Viking, 1941.
- McGinley, P.L. Horses who lived upstairs. Lippincott, 1944.
- Mason, M.E. Little Jonathan. Macmillan, 1944.
- \*Mother Goose. Tall book of Mother Goose; illus. by Rojankovsky. Harper, 1942.
- Newberry, C.T. Mittens. Harper, 1936.
- Norling, J.S. Pogo's sea trip. Holt, 1949.
- \*Patton, L. Little river of gold. Whitman, 1946.
- Paull, G.A. Pancakes for breakfast. Doubleday, 1946.
- Potter, B. Tale of little pig Robinson. Warne, 1950.
- Potter, R. Little red ferry boat. Holt, 1947.
- Rey, H.A. Curious George. Houghton, 1941.
- Rigby, D. Moustachio. Harper, 1947.
- Scott, S. Judy's baby. Harcourt, 1949.
- Selsam, M.E. Hidden animals. International Publishing Co., 1947.
- Sewell, H.M. Blue barns. Macmillan, 1933.
- \*Stewart, E.L. Billy buys a dog. Reilly, 1950.
- Tresselt, A.R. Autumn harvest. Lothrop, 1951.
- Tudor, T. Amanda and the bear. Oxford, 1951.
- Van Rosen, R. Baker's dozen. Appleton-Century, 1946.
- Webb, C. North Pole before lunch. Warne, 1951.
- Webber, I.E.S. Bits that grow big. Scott, 1949.
- Williams, G. Timid Timothy. Scott, 1944.

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